

Application No.: 10/629300  
Docket No.: CH2890USNA

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Amendments to Claims

Claims 1-9 (cancelled)

10. (New) In an improved aqueous paper stock mixture including pulp, a titanium dioxide pigment slurry and an alumina trihydrate pigment slurry, wherein the improvement comprises: an alumina trihydrate extender pigment slurry comprising:

- (a) alumina trihydrate pigmentary particles having an average particle size of at least 0.5 micron;
- (b) a dispersant comprising an acrylic dispersing resin, and optionally citric acid;
- (c) a rheology modifier consisting of a synthetic hectorite clay in an amount from 0.1 up to about 1% by weight of the total slurry formulation;
- (d) optionally a compound to adjust pH;
- (e) a biocide; and
- (f) water, wherein at least 50% by weight of the slurry is dispersed alumina trihydrate.

11. (New) The aqueous paper stock of claim 10 wherein the slurry is FDA compliant for indirect food contact.

12. (New) The aqueous paper stock of claim 10 wherein at least 67-68% by weight of the slurry is dispersed alumina trihydrate pigmentary particles.

13. (New) The aqueous paper stock of claim 10 wherein the Brookfield viscosity of the slurry is less than 1500 cps at 20 rpm